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612.44713X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nicolas Couenne et al.
Serial No.: to be assigned
Filed: herewith
For: METHOD OF OPTIMIZING THE OPERATION OF A
SIMULATED COUNTERCURRENT XYLENES
SEPARATION UNIT
Group: to be assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 28, 2005

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of this application and prior to
calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as
follows:

Amendments to the Claims;

Remarks are included following the amendments.